

**Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of)	
)	
Amendment of Part 97 of the Commission's)	
Amateur Radio Service Rules to Eliminate)	RM - 10786
Morse Code Proficiency Testing Requirements)	
For All Classes of Amateur Licenses)	
)	
To: The Commission)	

Comments of Gordon F. Blaney

Due to the dramatic change in technology there are no valid reasons for requiring Morse proficiency for any amateur radio operators.

Since there are virtually no government agencies using Morse code in their radio services, the need for operators trained in Morse code has been eliminated.

Digital modes have been shown to be more reliable than Morse code and they as many other aspects of amateur radio were developed without any proficiency requirements.

The ITU Radio Regulations have removed all testing requirements from their regulations, and the Commission should do the same.

It serves no purpose to require the United States and its territories to be bound by regulations that do not serve the public's best interest.

The events of 9/11 showed the country and the world that amateur radio served well during the tragedy. The pool of volunteer amateurs trained by practicing in the radio arts came through when most other normal communications were compromised. These communications were not accomplished with Morse code.

Eliminate the code altogether and no longer restrict the many otherwise qualified people from joining the ranks of amateur operators. Morse code is and has been the major factor in the diminishing number of amateur radio operators.

In closing I hope the Commission enacts the following rule changes

Eliminate the Element 1 Morse test totally from the Commissions rules for all license classes.

All technician class licensees should have the same privileges as technician with Morse licensees.

Respectfully submitted

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